

REMARKS

Claims 9-10, 19-20 and 29 remain pending in the application. No amendment is made in this paper. Accordingly, no new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, and submit that all pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Office Action indicates that claims 9-10 and 29 are allowed.

Applicants thank Examiner Gravini for the courtesies extended to their representative during the March 5, 2012 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated herein.

I. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent 2,197,178 to Gates. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As noted in the March 5 Examiner Interview Summary sheet, and agreed to by Examiner Gravini, Gates fails to teach or suggest disk holding means isolated from areas of said tray in which liquid may collect, as recited in independent claim 19. For at least this reason, this rejection under 35 USC §102(b) is moot as to claims 19-20, and should be withdrawn.

II. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Robert Z. Evora/

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